

INL News Release  
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**INL announces contract to build \$48-million research/office facility**

IDAHO FALLS – Today Idaho National Laboratory announced plans for a new flagship facility at its Idaho Falls campus. INL selected the Boyer Company of Salt Lake City to build a roughly 131,000-square-foot, \$48-million building between the lab's two main Idaho Falls facilities. INL will occupy the building through a long-term lease agreement with the Boyer Company.

The new Research and Education Laboratory will act as the "front door" to neighboring campus facilities and become the interface between the public and the INL staff. It is conceived as a state-of-the-art laboratory that creates a collaborative environment between INL employees, partners and visitors. School field trips, conference attendees and visiting scientists will be able to use the space to collaborate on research and learn about INL and contemporary research activities.

The new facility will be Gold certified for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) by the U.S. Green Building Council. Green buildings — also called "sustainable buildings," "resource-efficient buildings" or "high-performance buildings" — minimize the impact on the environment by using less energy and water, reducing solid waste and pollutants, and limiting the depletion of natural resources.

The Research and Education Laboratory will house two types of space with different uses. Roughly half of the building will be science and engineering research labs. The remaining half will be non-laboratory space including researchers' offices, collaborative work environments, large conference rooms and a 350-seat auditorium. The office environment will be exceptionally open and light while providing walled private offices for most building occupants. Interior office walls will be glazed to bring daylight deep into the work areas and office cubicles.

The building will be on the Idaho Falls Research and Education Campus, just south of the Engineering Research Office Building on Fremont Avenue. INL leaders hope the facility will encourage visitor and public access, showcase the world-class research and development taking place, and allow INL to vacate some leased laboratory space in disparate parts of its Idaho Falls campus.

INL has been working toward the agreement for four years, and some have envisioned such a facility for nearly two decades. Construction is expected to start in the fall of 2009 and conclude in late 2011.

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